# THE THIRD DAY.

## *25th February 1920.*

The Assembly met at 12 noon on Wednesday, the 25th February 1920.

**14. Need for assigning more *puduval* and *poramboke* lands in the names of Parayas.**

*Mr. Raman Chennan* (Member, Nominated) said that, in pursuance of the orders of Government granting certain concessions to Parayas and Pulayas in the matter of *puduval* registry, only a few acres in the Kunnattur and Peermade taluks had been granted to them. The Pulayas and Parayas who had no access to public offices and were disabled from freely using the public roads were greatly handicapped in regard to the registry of lands. There were about 1,25,000 Parayas in the whole State, out of whom 75,000 were Hindus and the remaining 50,000 Christians. Not even one in a thousand possessed any land for a dwelling site. The difficulty in getting lands for dwelling-sites was also increased by the fact that numerous companies had been started in recent years and they took up large blocks of unregistered waste lands in their names. The Member submitted the following proposals for the consideration of Government:—

(1) *Puduval* applications from the members of his community should be arranged to be disposed of expeditiously.

(2) Five acres of land in each taluk should be registered in the name of the members of his community for communal use as places of public worship, schools, &c.

(3) A special officer should be appointed for a period of at least 2 years to take necessary steps for the elevation of his community.

(4) The lands named below should be ordered to be registered in the names of Parayas and Pulayas, *viz.*, 350 acres in the Pathanapurom taluk; 180 acres in Survey No. 220/1 in the Vallicode *pakuthi*, Kunnathur taluk; 25 acres in Survey No. 431/2 in the Kodumon *pakuthi* in the Kunnathur taluk; 500 acres in Survey No. 432/2 known as Mutharipadom *thadom* in the Enathimangalom *pakuthi*; 865 acres in Survey No. 283 in the Ezhumattoor *pakuthi*; 550 acres in Survey No. 225/1, 227/1 and 192 in the Cherukole *pakuthi*; 1,500 acres in Survey Nos. 111/1 and 112/1 within the Karikattoor Reserve, Kanjirapalli *pakuthi*; 700 acres in Survey No. 379/1 in the Erumeli *pakuthi*; 500 acres in Survey No. 354/1 in the Injavakkapunja Vayal; 75 acres in Survey No. 371/1 in the Bharanikavu *pakuthi*, Mavelikara taluk; Thollayiram Kuzhimannu within the Valiakavu Reserve; and Kalappakottu Mannu in the Alapra Reserve.

*Dewan's reply.*—Noted.

**15. Need for giving practical effect to the orders of Government in the matter of the registry of waste lands in the names of Pulayas and Parayas.**

*Mr. Abraham Isaac* (Member, Nominated) complained that, in spite of the concessions granted to the members of his community from time to time in the matter of registry of *puduval* lands, they had not derived any substantial benefit. The unregistered waste lands entered on and improved by them were either granted to high-caste men who were wealthy or influential, or brought to sale by auction or the *tharavila* thereon was being made prohibitive. Priority of applications and improvements were ignored and they were turned out of the lands which they had improved. Their applications for *puduval* lands were often rejected, the number of applications granted being about 1 in 1,000. The truth of his statement would be borne out, if a list be called for as to the number of applications received in each taluk, since the issue of G. O. No. 2290 L. R., dated the 23rd April 1917, the extent of lands applied for, the number of applications granted, the area assigned in pursuance of

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the above applications, the number of applications rejected and the reasons for their rejection. Their grievances were in the majority of cases due to the unsympathetic attitude of the revenue subordinates on whose reports the Tahsildars' decisions were often based. The Member then pointed out that 7 Pulayas applied for the registry of 7 acres of land out of Survey No. 686/11 in the Arakulam *muri*, Karikode *pakuthi*, Todupuzha taluk, entered on the area and improved it, but the land was afterwards registered in the name of another and the Pulayas were turned out of the lands in question. In another case, *ozhugus* for an area of about 100 acres of land, comprised in Survey No. 790/1 in the Rani *pakuthi*, Chengannur taluk, were prepared in the names of 50 Pulayas and they deposited *tharavila* and *thadivila* for an extent of half an acre per head. As they were unable to pay up the balance amount, action was taken for the disposal of the lands in auction. The Member prayed that those lands might be registered in the names of the Pulayas free of *tharavila* and *thadivila* in accordance with the G. O. on the subject. In conclusion, the Member submitted the following suggestions :—

(1) Stringent orders should be issued to the effect that all lands applied for by Pulayas and Parayas should be registered in their names.

(2) Lands comprised in Survey Nos. 777/1 and 790/1 in the Rani *pakuthi*, Chengannur taluk, waste lands in Alapra, Valiakavu, Karinkulam, and Noorvakad and portions of the Kalaketty and the Pallode Reserved Forests, should be granted to them on registry so as to enable them to settle in colonies.

(3) Unregistered waste lands in the Manchadikara *pakuthi* of the Changanacherry taluk, Vadayar *pakuthi* in the Vaikom taluk and also in the Ettumanur taluk, which had been in the occupation of Pulayas and Parayas for the last 25 years, should be registered in their names.

(4) The rule requiring the removal of the tree-growth by the Forest Department before the land was brought under registry should be cancelled, as the registry-holders could be made to take care of the trees.

(5) A special officer should be appointed in each Revenue Division to attend to the registry of lands in the names of the members of the depressed classes and to render them the necessary help in the matter.

*Dewan's reply*.—Noted.

**16. Desirability of splitting the Peermade taluk into two taluks with Kanjirapalli as the head-quarters of one of them.**

*Mr. M. Thomman* (Member, Peermade taluk) urged the desirability of partitioning the Peermade taluk into two with Kanjirapalli as the head-quarters of one of them. The six western *pakuthies* of the Peermade taluk, *viz.*, Kanjirapalli North, Kanjirapalli South, Chirakadavu, Cheruvalli, Manimala and Poonjar might with advantage be separated and formed into a new taluk. The Peermade taluk was 629 square miles in extent and was larger than the Padmanabhapuram Division which comprised five taluks and had a total area of only 613 square miles. Since the partition of the Chengannur taluk into two, the Peermade taluk was the largest taluk in the State in point of area. The area of the proposed taluk would be 210 square miles, while 25 out of the 34 taluks in the State were less than 200 square miles in extent. The revenue of the Peermade taluk was increasing year after year, and, as large areas were brought under tea and rubber, it was bound to increase still further. The lease of the Erumeli and Paschima Devaswom lands also would contribute to a large increase in revenue. According to the Member, the revenue of the proposed taluk would be about Rs. 75,000, a little above that of the newly formed Pathanamthitta taluk. The want of a treasury at Kanjirapalli was also keenly felt, as the treasuries at Meenachil, Peermade, Kottayam and Changanachery were more than 20 miles distant from the six *pakuthies* referred to above. It was pointed out that, out of 40 persons entitled to vote under the Assembly Rules, 38 were in the six *pakuthies* under reference, of which only 2 were present at the taluk head-quarters on the date on which the votes were taken. The enormous increase in the revenue work of the Peermade Tahsildar and the accumulation of arrears in respect of *puduval* and *pokkuvaravu* cases also necessitated the splitting up of the taluk into

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